

January 13, 2003

TO: Internal File

THRU: Daron R. Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Priscilla W. Burton, Sr. Environmental Scientist/Soils

RE: Technical Field Visit, Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, C/007/006

Other Attendees: Johnny Pappas, Plateau Mining Company
Karl Houskeeper, DOGM Inspector

Date & Time: January 7, 2002, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the field visit was to observe reclamation in the main drainage and the condition of the refuse pile.

OBSERVATIONS:

The bottom of the main drainage was snow covered. One foot of road base, one foot of gravel and two feet of D50 rock were installed on top of the clean fill in the drainage, according to Mr. Pappas. No refuse was used in the drainage construction. The contours of the site looked natural with the exception of a side channel that dives straight down the slope to the main channel. The slopes were well pocked and the pocks were holding snow.

The gas well site topsoil stockpile had been recently gouged and reseeded.

TECHNICAL MEMO

One rubber tire-mounted and one track-mounted dozer were on site. The haul trucks are maneuvering on the surface of the refuse pile. No sorting or crushing or screening is being done at the site. All the refuse is being hauled from the site. In the last month, 30,000 cu yds have been transported across the valley to the SCA Cogeneration Plant. This has lowered the pile by approximately ten feet, says Mr. Pappas. The dozer operator complained that the frozen refuse was very hard and the ripper shank was not too effective in loosening the surface.

The topography upstream (west) of the refuse pile was noted and photographed. The southern exposure of the refuse pile was photographed. The extent or length of the 75-acre refuse pile was photographed, with Sunnyside way off in the distance. The processing waste settling ponds were photographed. The settling ponds are the proposed location of discard material from the refuse pile under the SCA application currently under review (C/007/042-PM02A). Mr. Pappas indicated that the processing waste in the ponds was routinely dried and cleaned out. The waste was transported to the refuse pile. The western most pond was not cleaned out at the end of mining and still contains processing waste.

Approximately 300,000 cubic yards of refuse was moved to the refuse pile from within the drainage during reclamation. It was placed to the east of the main refuse pile in the location of refuse pile B on SCA's application C/007/042-PM02A. A pile of road base and one of gravel sit on the refuse.

Power poles have been deactivated at the site.

RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS:

Reclamation of the main drainage looks very good. Removal of the refuse will be a great benefit to reclamation of the site. Photos from this field visit may be viewed on the Internet at: <ftp://dogm.nr.state.ut.us/PUB/MINES/Coal/C007/006/IMAGES/01072003/>